



1654

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicant: Lezdey et al  
Serial No.: 09/957,012  
Filed: 09/20/2001  
For: Oral Methods of Treatment

Box Amendment-No Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC. 20231

Examiner: Coe  
Art Unit: 1654

TRANSMITTAL

Dear Sir:

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 Response  
 Search

Date: January 7, 2003  
Docket No.: 1434-K

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Respectfully submitted,

John Lezdey  
Registration No. 22,735  
John Lezdey & Associates  
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**Response**

Responsive to the Official Action dated December 26, 2002.

In response to the requirement for restriction, applicants provisionally elect rheumatoid arthritis from Group A and alpha1-antitrypsin from Group B with traverse.

Claims readable thereon are claims 2, 3, 4, 6-11, 14, 15, 16, and 18-20.

It is respectfully submitted that three protease inhibitors are obvious variants of each other in their function. Each of the protease inhibitors are members of the serine family. One half of the alpha2-macroglobulin comprises a molecular formula similar to alpha1-antitrypsin, the other half alpha1-antichymotrypsin. Each of the protease inhibitors are useful in diseases characterized by elastase, are inhibitory of matrix metalloproteinases, and are antiviral.

In this regard the Examiner's attention is directed to:

Application serial No. 09/723,840 which has been allowed and claims the treatment of interstitial cystitis, rheumatoid arthritis, and scleroderma with alpha1-antitrypsin or alpha1-antitrypsin conjugated to polyethylene glycol and secretory

leucocyte protease inhibitor. The difference being that the present invention relates to oral administration. Full faith and credit is requested of the previous examination of the Patent office.

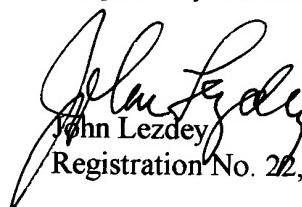
Application serial No. 09/624,442 which has been allowed and claims the treatment of systemic lupus erythematosis with alpha1-antitrypsin, secretory leucocyte protease inhibitor, and alpha2-macroglobulin.

Patent No. 5,532,215 shows the common antiviral aspects of the protease inhibitors. The antiviral claims for alpha2-macroglobulin are found in a separate patent.

Enclosed for the Examiner's consideration are results if a search on the oral administration of alpha1-antitrypsin.

Favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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